

Malibu *Fulfilling Dreams—Leaving Legacies* Current

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Malibu Legacy Park Project Reaches Next Milestone

The “Future home of Malibu Legacy Park” sign on Pacific Coast Highway celebrates the culmination of a long-held dream and the successful citywide effort to raise \$25-million to purchase 20 acres at Webb Way in central Malibu. Now the Malibu Legacy Park Project has reached a new milestone as the planning and design phase for an environmental oasis in the heart of the City shifts into high gear.

Artist's concept of Malibu Legacy Park looking south along Pacific Coast Highway.



One year ago, Malibu residents, civic and business organizations, environmental groups, visitors, government agencies, and the City banded together and raised millions of dollars to acquire one of Malibu's most talked-about and sought-after parcels. The City's purchase also preserved 15 acres of coveted vacant land to realize a once-in-a-lifetime environmental protection and quality-of-life opportunity.

In October, City staff and the recently-hired consulting team entered the next phase of the multi-year Legacy Park project and set planning, pre-design, permitting, and Environmental Impact Report preparations into motion. Outreach for community input will begin by April.

Park improvements are expected to cost at least \$10-\$12 million. Public agency fundraising efforts are underway to help underwrite the improvements. When the private donor campaign resumes in early 2007, residents, businesses, and friends of Malibu will have another opportunity to “fulfill a dream and leave a legacy.”

Malibu Legacy Park is more than a park: It's a major component of a complex environmental cleaning machine, which will reduce pollution in Malibu Creek, Malibu Lagoon, and the world-famous Surfrider Beach.

The environmental cleaning machine's “engine” is the newly-constructed Malibu Stormwater Treatment Facility on Civic Center Way, set to open in February 2007 (see page 2). The facility's by-product, highly-treated stormwater that meets stringent clean water standards, will irrigate the park when landscaping is completed.



Join the City of Malibu in building a legacy in the heart of Malibu. Help the City's cutting-edge concept transform into a central park that produces far-reaching environmental rewards.
www.malibulegacy.org



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New Stormwater Treatment Facility Powers Clean Water Efforts



The City's new Civic Center Stormwater Treatment Facility promises to help fulfill its commitment to reducing both the amount of bacteriological contamination entering Malibu Lagoon and Surfrider Beach, and the number of beach postings and closures. The City will host a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday, February 2.

The stormwater filtration and disinfection facility, located on the north side of Civic Center Way, west of Cross Creek Road, will provide filtration and disinfection of dry-weather flows and first-flush runoff. The \$5.8 million facility is the "engine" in the City's ambitious, environmentally-driven Malibu Legacy Park Project (see front page article).

It took seven months to construct the pump stations and all related piping at the Cross Creek drain, Malibu Road drain, and the central treatment facility site. The Stormwater Treatment Facility will process up to 1,400 gallons per minute of stormwater runoff from the Civic Center Way/Cross Creek area. The runoff will be

pumped from Civic Center Way, Cross Creek Road, and the Malibu Road storm drains to the treatment facility where it will be disinfected through ozone treatment to meet U.S. Environmental Protection Agency water quality requirements for recreational contact.

The City will re-use the treated stormwater for landscaping in the Civic Center area during low flow periods until the park site is developed. After Legacy Park is developed, the dry and wet weather treated stormwater will be used for park irrigation.

The State Water Resources Control Board awarded the City two, \$2 million grants from its Clean Beaches Initiative grant program for the project. The City also received \$1 million from the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission/State Coastal Conservancy and \$500,000 from the California Integrated Waste Management Board. The City contributed \$300,000 from its General Fund.

Returning Paradise to Paradise Cove

Beachgoers are one step closer to finding paradise in Paradise Cove again.

In cooperation with Santa Monica Baykeeper, the City of Malibu was awarded \$920,000 from the State Water Resources Control Board's Clean Beaches Initiative grant program to design and construct a stormwater treatment and disinfection facility on Ramirez Creek at Paradise Cove. Construction is expected to begin this summer.

Two years ago, the City collaborated with the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works, which conducted an Early Monitoring Program along the North Santa Monica Bay shoreline. The goal was to evaluate water quality at locations where historical sampling data were lacking and to identify and prioritize locations with chronic bacteria problems so that targeted treatment strategies could be devised. Based on the findings, Paradise Cove, as part of the Ramirez

Canyon watershed, was one of two Malibu areas determined to deserve immediate attention.

An experimental project, with temporary, rented equipment operated by the Kissel Co., and monitored by Santa Monica Baykeeper, proved successful and showed that improvements to the water quality at Paradise Cove were possible.

The newly-funded stormwater facility, designed to remove bacteria from dry and some wet-weather flows before reaching the ocean, is expected to protect and restore the coastal water quality at Paradise Cove, thus reducing and eliminating postings and closures, which have been caused by bacterial contamination.



Just Say “Stop”

The real threat the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) deepwater ports pose to the environment, public safety, tourism and property values in Malibu and neighboring areas has driven the City's nearly three-year effort against the projected 14-story-high, three football fields-long project. The City Council appropriated \$50,000 to the legal fight against the proposed LNG project. The City is also an active member of the Statewide LNG Environmental Stakeholder Working Group. The battle hasn't been won yet. You can join the Virtual March Against the LNG Project on the City's website at www.ci.malibu.ca.us.



Clearing the Creek for Steelhead Trout

It's been half a century since steelhead trout were found in Solstice Creek in Corral Canyon. Man-made obstacles impeded the steelhead trout's natural migration from the ocean, and the fish disappeared. Now the City is participating in a multi-agency effort with the State Fish and Game Department, National Park Service, California Conservation Corps, and Heal the Bay aimed at opening the way for the steelheads' return.

The City, which is responsible for clearing the passage within its boundaries for the steelhead trout, will remove a concrete box structure that supports the Corral Canyon bridge at Solstice Creek.

The \$1,020,000 project, partially funded through a \$637,000 grant from the State Fish and Game Department, includes rebuilding the bridge with new structural supports and then restoring the creekbed to its natural state. The two-month project is slated to begin in late spring.

Home Run Scored for Malibu's Youth

Malibu youth celebrated the City's acquisition of the sports fields and Michael Landon Center at Bluffs Park in November. State Parks Director Ruth Coleman and State Assemblymember Fran Pavley, joined Mayor Ken Kearsley, Mayor Pro Tem Jeff Jennings, and Councilmembers Sharon Barovsky, Andy Stern, and Pamela Conley Ulich as members of Malibu's sports groups helped cut the ribbon at a special ceremony.

Mayor Kearsley called Bluffs Park, “the people's park.” Councilmember Barovsky, who was mayor when the agreement was made, said the acquisition of the Bluffs ballfields “wiped away years of uncertainty and secured the park's future for generations to come.”

Since 2001, the City of Malibu has committed more than \$35 million from its General Fund, private donations and grant funds to implement clean water strategies along its 21-mile coastline.



Las Flores Creek Goes Back to Nature

The City has set an aggressive time schedule for the restoration of Las Flores Creek to a more natural riparian environment and the development of a creekside park. Construction of the project, which also will reduce slide and flood dangers, is expected to begin this summer.

The nearly \$3.9 million Las Flores Creek Restoration and Park Development project is being funded through grants totaling about \$2.4 million, with City matching funds covering the balance. Recently, the California State Resources Agency awarded the City \$925,000 in Gateway Project funds for both restoration and park development.

Las Flores Creek Park will include children's play areas, viewing benches, and trails along the length of the park, as well as interpretive signage related to the creek and riparian environment.

The creek project will stabilize a linear half-mile of creek bank and re-contour the land to allow the creek bed to widen out to reduce scour of the stream bed and embankments. The design calls for protection of native vegetation and specimen sycamore trees and removal of non-native, invasive plant species to re-create a natural creek area and enhanced habitat for fish and wildlife.

The multi-million dollar City project was initially awarded \$555,000 in 2001 from the State of California Department of Water Resources Urban Streams Restoration Program for design and construction, and in 2005, another \$280,000 from the program for construction. Also in 2005, the Wildlife Conservation Board Riparian Habitat Conservation Program awarded the City \$600,000 for creek and habitat restoration.

visit
www.ci.malibu.ca.us

City Departments

310.456.2489

City Manager, Jim Thorsen	x226
Public Works Director/ City Engineer, Robert Brager	x247
Environmental and Community Development Director, Victor Peterson	x251
Parks & Recreation Director, Bob Stallings	x225
Finance Director, Reva Feldman	x224

Comments/Suggestions

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Road Conditions Hotline	310.456.9982
Weather and Surf Conditions	310.457.9701

Bu's Tip: Water only what your plants need

Poorly functioning sprinklers and over-watered landscapes waste water and increase the number of pollutants flowing into storm drains. Garden chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds its way through streets, gutters and storm drains before polluting the ocean. Most water is wasted in your garden in months prior to or just after the rainy season when intermittent rains occur and you water plants that do not need the water or do not adjust or maintain the irrigation system. Be sure to contact your local water provider Los Angeles County Waterworks District Water Conservation Specialist at (626) 300-3364 or conservewater@ladpw.org for more information and potential incentives available to Malibu residents and businesses.



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